

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 IO-13 ERDA-05 AF-08 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /128 R

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R 150212Z OCT 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 255618

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:

SUBJECT: UNGA DISARMAMENT - BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON ENMOD
CONVENTION

1. AS BACKGROUND INFORMATION RELATED TOPRESENTATION TO
MFA OFFICIAL OUTLINED SEPTTEL, FOLLOWING IS EXCERPT OF
GENEVA 6651 DTG 191710Z AUG 76, SUBJ: CCD - ENMOD WORKING
GROUP MEETINGS, AUG 17 AND 18, 1976:

BEGIN TEXT

5. ARGENTINE REP (BERASATEGUI) RESTATED STRONG OPPOSITION
TO EXISTING ARTICLE I FORMULATION, ESPECIALLY WORDS "WIDE-
SPREAD, LONG-LASTING OR SEVERE," REFERRING TO HIS STATEMENTS
IN CCD PLENARY ON AUG 26, 1975 AND ON MARCH 18, 1976, AS
WELL AS DETAILED EXPLANATIONS IN PREVIOUS ENMOD WORKING
GROUP MEETINGS. . . .

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6. CANADIAN REP (SIMARD) ANNOUNCED THE STRONG VIEW OF THE

CANADIAN GOVT THAT THE TERMS "WIDESPREAD, LONG-LASTING OR SEVERE" SHOULD NOT BE DEFINED, BECAUSE THIS WOULD PRESENT A DANGER OF NARROWING THE APPLICATION OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTOCOLS OF THE LAWS OF WAR -- IN WHICH THE PHRASE "WIDESPREAD, LONG-TERM, AND SEVERE" IS USED REPEATEDLY, AND IN WHICH ENTIRELY DIFFERENT DEFINITIONS ARE NECESSARY.

NETHERLANDS ALT REP (MEERBURG) ALSO INDICATED CONCERN OVER THIS PROBLEM, BUT DECLARED ON THE CONTRARY THAT IF THE WORDS "WIDESPREAD, LONG-LASTING OR SEVERE" REMAIN THEY WILL HAVE TO BE DEFINED CLEARLY. PERHAPS, MEERBURG SUGGESTED, CCD'S REPORT TO UNGA COULD STATE THAT THE DEFINITIONS APPLY TO THE ENMOD CONVENTION ONLY. SIMARD REPLIED THAT THIS IS A POSSIBILITY, BUT THAT HE WOULD NOT WISH TO PREJUDGE THE FINAL RESULT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE ALTERNATE FORMULATIONS OF THE THRESHOLD CONCEPT IN WHICH THESE THREE WORDS WOULD NOT APPEAR. END TEXT.

2. FOR SAME PURPOSE, FOLLOWING IS EXCERPT OF USUN 4186
DTG 050543Z OCT 76:

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED TEXT

DISARMAMENT - WITHOUT SPECIFYING MEXICAN INTENTIONS AT THE CURRENT UNGA, GARCIA ROBLES FOCUSED ON SIX DISARMAMENT ISSUES. HE RECALLED PREVIOUS UNGA RESOLUTIONS (DRAFTED BY MEXICO) CONDEMNING ALL NUCLEAR WEAPON TEST, "REGRETTING" LACK OF PROGRESS IN SALT, AND "DEFINING" NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE CONCEPT AS WELL AS "PRINCIPAL OBLIGATIONS" OF NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES TOWARD SUCH ZONES. IN ADDITION, HE RECALLED MEXICAN DRAFT PROTOCOL ON PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR-WEAPON TESTS SUBMITTED TO 1975 NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE AND CITED MEXICAN CONTRIBUTION TO COLOMBO DECLARATION'S RE-ENDORSEMENT OF A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE AND ITS INTERIM CALL FOR A SPECIAL UNGA SESSION ON DISARMAMENT. AS "ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION BY MEXICO IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT," GARCIA ROBLES CITED MEXICAN OBJECTIONS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION CONVENTION NEGOTIATED BY THE CCD. HE REFERRED TO MEXICAN WORKING PAPER (CCD/516) SETTING OUT REASONS WHY MEXICO "CONSIDERS IT EXTREMELY ALARMING THAT IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO THINK OF

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LEGITIMIZING IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SUCH MONSTROUS ACTIONS AS THE DELIBERATE MANIPULATION OF NATURAL PROCESSES SO AS TO CAUSE EARTHQUAKES, TYPHOONS, CYCLONES," ETC.
END UNCLASSIFIED TEXT. KISSINGER

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